Payment of Pending Bills by NBCC

2599. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Building Construction Corporation is not making payment to the Contractor/Builder in time;

(b) if so, how many cases are pending for payment, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the National Building Construction Corporation will arrange to make the payment of pending bills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) and (c) NBCC is at present executing about 145 projects all over the country and abroad. Under the existing financial delegation of powers in vogue in the Corporation, these projects are under the charge of die Unit-In-Charge and controlled by the Zonal Offices located at different places in the country. The works are awarded to Contractors by the Units/ Zones within their financial powers without reference to the Head Office. The payments against the work done by the Contractors is received from the client Departments normally within a period of two months and immediately on receipt of the same, the payments to the Contractors are released by the respective Units. Since in every Project there may be normally 10 to 20 Contractors/Suppliers depending upon the size of the Project, it is not possible to monitor each payment being made to these Agencies at Head-Office level. As and when a reference is received from any Contractor regading delay in payment, the same is enquired into and instructions are issued to the respective Units and Zones to expedite and clear the payment Sometimes, in case the payments from a particular client get delayed, the Zonal Officers also divert and arrange funds from other sources so as to mitigate the hardship of die-Contractors. Payment to Contractors on ongoing Projects is a continuous process. Some time-lag will always be there between the execution of the work by the Contractors and release of payments to them. This time-lag depends upon the receipt of payments from the client Specific records of such cases are not maintained at Corporate level.

Illegal Possession of DDA Land

2600. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH: SHRI AAS MOHAMMAD: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints of illegal possession of DDA land have been received during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas to which these complaints belong; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) Complaints about encroachment of Delhi Development Authority land/illegal construction thereon have been received from public representatives, organisations and individuals from time to time. As encroachmentVillegal construction is a continuing problem and its removal is also a continuous process, no separate record in respect thereof has been maintained by DDA. However, details of land reclaimed by removal of encroachment by DDA during the years 1991 -92 to 1993-94 are as under—

Year	Land Reclaimed
1991-92	261 acres
1992-93	284 acres
1993-94	859 acres

Legislation to Impose lax on Urban Land

2601. SHRI SANJAY DALM1A: SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: (a) whether Government propose to enact a legislation with a view to impose tax on Urban vacant land in the States and Union Territories; and

(b) what are the objects and reasons for this legislation and bow much revenue is likely to be collected therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) No such